

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 028258
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 EB-08 L-03
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00
OMB-01 HA-05 DOE-11 SOE-02 STR-07 SIL-01 LAB-04
AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-10 /157 R

DRAFTED BY IO/IEP:RAPOOLE:JPS
APPROVED BY IO - CWMAYNES
IO:CRFRANK
EB:RHORMATS
EUR/RPE:PJMCLEAN
E:SCA,NER
EB/ORF/FSE:GAROSEN
EB/IFD/ODF:EWLLOLLIS

-----013806 022026Z /43

P R 022012Z PEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 028258

FOR USEEC PARIS AND USOECD INFO ONLY

E.O. 11652: X-GDS-1

TAGS: PORG, EGEN, UN, UK
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PAGE 02 STATE 028258

SUBJECT: UN OVERVIEW MECHANISM: FIRST MEETING FEBRUARY
13-17

REF: (A) LONDON 1548; (B) STATE 17255

1. DEPT APPRECIATES YOUR REPORT ON YOUR CONVERSATION WITH DEREK THOMAS ON THE UPCOMING MEETING OF THE UN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON OVERVIEW. THIS TELEGRAM PROVIDES MATERIAL FOR YOUR FOLLOW-UP CONVERSATION.

2. IN ANSWER TO THOMAS' SPECIFIC QUESTION WHETHER IT WAS OUR MAIN AIM TO HAVE ENERGY FEATURED IN THE OVERVIEW (PARA 6, REFTEL A), YOU MAY TELL HIM THAT OUR AIM IS MUCH BROADER, AS OUTLINED IN REFTEL B, ALTHOUGH WE DO THINK ENERGY WOULD BE ONE OF THE USEFUL ITEMS TO DISCUSS UNDER ONE OF THE BROAD CLUSTERS OF SUBJECTS SUGGESTED IN REFTEL B. FOR REASONS EXPLAINED IN REFTEL B OUR GENERAL POSITION IS OPPOSED TO THE IDEA OF SETTING UP UNDER THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE FORMAL WORKING GROUPS ON SPECIFIC ITEMS, AS SOME OF THESE MIGHT IN TIME BE USED TO REPLICATE NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY IN SPECIALIZED UN FORUMS, E.G., ON DEBT, COMMON FUND, COMMODITIES, ETC. OUR POSITION ON AN ENERGY DIALOGUE IS THAT, WHILE WE DO NOT WISH TO BE IN A DEMANDEUR POSITION BY GETTING OUT IN FRONT, NOR PAY A PRICE FOR GETTING A DIALOGUE GOING, WE WOULD QUIETLY ENCOURAGE OTHERS (ESPECIALLY LDCS) IF THEY WISH TO PROMOTE AN ENERGY DIALOGUE. IN SUCH EVENT WE BELIEVE THAT, FOR THE DIALOGUE TO COME ABOUT, ITS FOCUS WILL HAVE TO BE ON BROAD ISSUES OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND RATHER THAN ON OPEC PRICE POLICIES.

3. WITH RESPECT TO US PARTICIPATION, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARIES ROBERT HORMATS (EB) AND CHARLES FRANK (IO)
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ARE EXPECTED TO BE OUR MAIN WASHINGTON CONTINGENT TO THE FIRST (ORGANIZATIONAL) MEETING. THEREAFTER, FOR THE SUBSEQUENT SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS, THE POSSIBILITY OF HIGHER LEVEL REPRESENTATION FROM WASHINGTON WILL DEPEND ON THE LENGTH AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS. THIS WILL BECOME CLEARER WHEN THE ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION ARRIVES AT ITS CONCLUSIONS. OUR PARTICIPATION WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE TAILORED TO ANY POSSIBLE SMALL INFORMAL GROUP THAT MIGHT EVOLVE.

4. ON THE QUESTION OF AGENDA, WE TOO RECOGNIZE THAT THE G-77 WISH TO GET DOWN TO SPECIFICS. THE SCENARIO WE SUGGEST IN REFTEL B DOES NOT PRECLUDE THIS, BUT RATHER SUGGESTS THAT SPECIFIC QUESTIONS BE TAKEN UP IN CLUSTERS UNDER THE GENERAL SUBJECTS WE PROPOSE. IT MIGHT ALSO BE USEFUL TO EXPLAIN THAT THE POINTS MADE IN THE THREE "TICKS" UNDER THE FOURTH PARAGRAPH UNDER "AGENDA" IN REFTEL B RELATE DIRECTLY TO THE MANDATE IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE OVERVIEW RESOLUTION (STATE 15279). THE FIRST CORRESPONDS TO MANDATE D; THE SECOND IS REFLECTIVE OF MANDATE A; AND THE THIRD IS EQUIVALENT TO MANDATES B AND C, WHICH ARE INSEPARABLE IN OUR VIEW. ANY GIVEN SUBJECT

SHOULD BE DEALT WITH IN THIS PROGRESSION, I.E., ANALYSIS
OF ISSUES AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO THE GLOBAL ECONOMY,
REVIEW OF THE PRESENT STATE OF PLAY, AND CONSIDERATION OF
FUTURE STEPS.

5. WITH RESPECT TO OUR IDEA OF A STEERING GROUP, WE HAVE
TAKEN FULL NOTE OF THE STRONG RESERVATIONS EXPRESSED BY
THE UK AND THE OTHER EC COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS BY CERTAIN
G-77 REPRESENTATIVES IN NEW YORK. WE HAVE FELT THAT A
SMALL GROUP COULD PROVIDE A MUCH BETTER FORUM FOR EXCHANGE
OF VIEWS THAN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE. HOWEVER, WE ARE
PREPARED TO FALL BACK TO THE EVOLUTION OF AN INFORMAL
GROUP AS SUGGESTED BY THE UK, IN THE LIGHT OF REACTIONS
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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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